

Matter of Callaway
Del. Supr., No. 83, 1986 (6/6/86),
Board Case No. 978

Disciplinary Rules: DR 1-102(A), 6-101(A), 7-101(A)

Nature of Case:

Respondent lawyer represented a client in a suit in the Justice of the Peace Court, and obtained a judgment in his client's favor. The opposing party appealed the judgment to the Superior Court, and the respondent's client instructed him to defend the appeal. The respondent failed to file the proper pleadings, and took no other timely action on the case, so that the appeal was dismissed, adversely to the respondent's client. The respondent thereafter was not candid with his client as to the status of her case, and was not completely candid with disciplinary authorities who investigated the matter.

Action Taken By The Court:

The Board on Professional Responsibility found that the respondent lawyer violated DR 6-101(A)(3) by neglecting a legal matter entrusted to him, and DR 1-102(A)(4) by engaging in a pattern of conduct involving deceit and misrepresentation. The Board imposed the sanction of a public reprimand, which was approved by the Supreme Court as final.